

our youth and for our Nation. As I work to pass the Congressional Teacher Award Act, I am happy to celebrate these mathematics and science teachers through the Presidential awards. As the United States seeks to find its place in the emerging global knowledge economy, our attention has turned to those who educate our youth, for teachers truly can change the future. I look forward to the leadership in the classroom, in New Jersey, and in the United States of Mrs. Gendaszek and Ms. Lyons to help maintain the leadership of the United States in the global economy.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF EARL WOODS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Earl Woods, a gentleman who was more determined to raise a good son than a great golfer. As a testament to his legacy I submit that he achieved both goals. Sadly, Earl Woods passed away today at the age of 74.

Earl Woods was born March 5, 1932, in Manhattan, Kansas, the youngest of six children. His parents died by the time he was 13. His father wanted him to play for the Kansas City Monarchs in the Negro Leagues, and his mother stressed education. He eventually attended Kansas State, graduating in 1953 with a degree in sociology and he also fulfilled his obligation to play baseball.

More than a dedicated father, Earl was a true mentor, a dedicated soldier, an author and a coach extraordinaire. During his lifetime, Earl Woods played catcher for Kansas State; the first black to play baseball in the Big Eight Conference. He was also a Green Beret in the U.S. Army Special Forces. He served for two tours in Vietnam rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel. His second tour shaped the latter part of his life.

He met his soon-to-be second wife Kultida Punsawad, a receptionist in Thailand and they wed in 1969. He fought alongside a Vietnamese friend who he nicknamed because of

his courage and bravery. Earl promised Tiger Phong that he would name a son after him.

Eldrick "Tiger" Woods was born December 30, 1975.

Earl Woods was instrumental in helping his son establish the Tiger Woods Foundation and he also wrote a book, "Training a Tiger: A Father's Guide to Raising a Winner in Both Golf and Life" to share his experiences of guiding and nurturing his son.

Most people identify with Earl Woods as Tiger Woods' father. Yes it is true that Earl Woods had done a remarkable job raising a son who was empowered to chose his direction, accept responsibility, and stay committed, focused and honest as he journeyed into becoming a role model with great character. Earl Woods made sure that Tiger had tools essential to his development as he grew into a good person first and a championship golfer second.

Earl Woods was extremely proud of his youngest son. I know he can rest assured that his legacy will live on. He devoted countless hours to shaping and molding his son's character and making sure that Tiger was "mentally strong." He told Tiger, when he was a young man, "You'll never run into another person as mentally tough as you." Tiger believes his dad. In a statement made by Tiger today he admits, "I wouldn't be where I am today without (my father), and I'm honored to continue his legacy of sharing and caring." This statement is a true testament to how the love and dedication of Earl Woods was the reason for Tiger Woods' success.

Mr. Speaker: I send heartfelt condolences to Kultida, Tiger, and the rest of the Woods family as they mourn the passing of their loved one. I pay tribute to an extraordinary man who left an indelible impression in his own right.

RECOGNIZING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MONMOUTH, OR

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2006

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the First Christian Church of Mon-

mouth. In the past 150 years, the members of this church have proven again and again the depth of their caring and giving, not just to their community, but to all those in need.

From 1850 to 1853, pioneers like Elijah Davidson, Ira F.M. Butler and others came to the Oregon Territory from their homes in Monmouth, Illinois—the inspiration for what became Monmouth, Oregon. These settlers, members of the Disciples of Christ Church, came to create a new community and school steeped in their religion and their values, tenets that they shared with the long history of pioneers going back to the Pilgrims. In 1856, Monmouth University (present-day Western Oregon University) was chartered, and it became the first home for the church.

The First Christian Church has long since outgrown its small beginnings, a single 20 by 30 foot room on the corner of Monmouth Avenue and Church Street. The church moved to its current location in 1913 and remains there today, where it still acts as a staple of town fellowship and camaraderie.

Just as the buildings that house this faith community have changed and grown over the years, so has the church's congregation. Active in the community, their good works include a teen center for local youth as well as the home for the Monmouth chapter of Meals on Wheels. This congregation represents the heart of the community and the goodness in people which we should all strive to achieve.

I want to take this opportunity to honor this church for the efforts that they have made on behalf of the residents of Monmouth and students of Western Oregon University. On this, their sesquicentennial anniversary, I acknowledge and honor the First Christian Church of Monmouth for their service and dedication to their community.